

The women and girls who escape these sub-human conditions must not be allowed to starve in refugee camps. Expansion of the U.S. humanitarian aid package and its proper distribution will help ensure that this will not happen.

Today, the treatment of women in Afghanistan is receiving much international attention. The Taliban's discriminatory gender policies have been heavily criticized by outside governments, intergovernmental organizations, and non-governmental organizations. Whilst the Taliban's response has been to vigorously defend their position, the opposition alliance fighting the Taliban in the northeast have sought to portray themselves as defenders of women's rights, although whether this is anything more than an opportunistic attempt to garner international support remains to be seen. They themselves have committed human rights abuses.

This pattern of using the status of women to accrue political advantage must be broken.

If the aims of peace and development are ever to be realized in Afghanistan, then women's fundamental human rights must be respected. It is now recognized the world over that progress, social justice, the eradication of poverty, sustained economic growth, and social development all critically depend on the full participation of women on the basis of equality in all spheres of society. As agreed by the governments participating in the Fourth UN World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995, local, national, regional and global peace is attainable and is inextricably linked to the advancement of women. In the Platform for Action, world governments pledged to take all necessary measures to prevent and eliminate violence and discrimination against women, which are major obstacles to the advancement and empowerment of women.

I rise today to reiterate my support for the women of Afghanistan. It is obligatory that the unalienable rights of these women be restored; an increase in humanitarian aid must be implemented for Afghan women and children; and Afghan women should play a leadership role in rebuilding the country.

**HONORING JOE DESCH AND THE
NCR CODE-BREAKING EFFORT**

HON. TONY P. HALL

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 17, 2001

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, at a ceremony on October 19, 2001, the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) will designate as a "Milestone in Engineering" the U.S. Naval Computing Machine Laboratory, in Dayton, Ohio, which I represent.

During World War II, the ability to analyze quickly coded enemy messages was one of our most critical military capabilities. To build a machine that could break codes from Nazi submarines, the Navy turned to Dayton's National Cash Register Company (NCR) and Joseph R. Desch, director of its Electrical Research Laboratory.

For three years, Desch and his team of dedicated workers developed a machine which

allowed our Nation to crack the secret code used by the Nazi military command to communicate its secret plans to its forces in the field. The device, called a Bombe, was the military's highest priority, second only to the development of the Atom Bomb. Its success gave the Allies a significant advantage, hastening the end of the war and saving the lives of American soldiers.

Desch and his team faced enormous pressure as they labored daily to construct and produce the code-breaking device. They sacrificed their personal health, both emotional and physical. Many of these heroes are no longer living. Desch died on August 3, 1987, at age 80.

The effort has been all but forgotten because of the enormous secrecy surrounding the project. In February and March 2001, the Dayton Daily News ran an extraordinary 8-part series by Jim DeBrosse about Desch. The series brought to light for the first time much information about NCR's code-breaking efforts. The IEEE ceremony later this month will bring additional honor to his memory.

Perhaps the greatest tribute to the memory of Joe Desch and his contribution to the war effort would be the permanent display of an original NCR Bombe in Dayton. Of the more than 120 Bombes that were believed to have been constructed in Dayton, the sole known surviving Bombe is displayed at the National Security Agency's National Cryptologic Museum in Ft. Meade, Maryland. I have been in touch with the National Security Agency requesting assistance in tracking down another example of this extraordinary invention.

As part the IEEE ceremony, the surviving members of this top-secret project will return to the site of the U.S. Naval Computing Machine Laboratory, at NCR. They will be joined by Desch's daughter, Debbie Anderson, whose persistence has helped the story be told.

I offer my congratulations on this award to all the survivors of the project and to Debbie Anderson in honor of her father.

TRIBUTE TO THE NATIONAL AFRICAN-AMERICAN CHRISTIAN SINGLES CONFERENCE

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 17, 2001

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 15th Annual National African-American Christian Singles Conference being held October 19–21, 2001, at the J.W. Marriott and Exhibition Center in Houston, Texas. Under the leadership of Pastor Joe Samuel Ratliff, the Singles Ministry of Brentwood Baptist Church of Houston will serve as the official host of the conference.

Dr. Joe Samuel Ratliff has been the pastor of Brentwood Baptist Church since 1980. Under his direction the congregation has grown from 500 members to more than 10,000. He has lead the congregation in developing fourteen mission churches in various parts of the Houston metropolitan.

In 1986, Pastor Ratliff, founded the first National African-American Christian Singles' Con-

ference. The Conference is a non-denominational event designed to address the needs and concerns of single Christian adults. Through the tireless efforts of the congregation, the conference has grown each year since its creation. It now attracts more than 1,000 singles from across the nation, and as far away as England, Germany, and Africa.

The National African-American Christian Singles Conference demonstrates Brentwood Baptist Church's commitment to promoting Christian fellowship and facilitating an environment for spiritual and cultural expression. The focus of this year's conference is, "Growth through Evangelism, Stewardship, Prayer, and Praise." This powerful weekend provides Christian singles an opportunity to become empowered, enriched and encouraged to face the challenges before them. The conference itinerary includes speakers on topics such as faith based initiatives within the community, financial stability, and neighborhood enrichment programs.

Brentwood Baptist Church has developed a Community Foundation which has made tremendous strides in the efforts to improve the quality of life in the Houston area. The Brentwood Community Foundation is a catalytic force, which seeks to empower its neighbors through programs in the arts, education, economic development, health care, and social services. Through its exemplary model of community activism, Brentwood Baptist Church has earned the respect and praise of its neighbors.

Again, I would like to recognize the 15th Annual National African-American Christian Singles Conference and congratulate the congregation on their exceptional service to the greater Houston area.

**HONORING CU PROFESSOR TIM
SEASTEDT FOR WEED CONTROL
RESEARCH**

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 17, 2001

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the important work of University of Colorado Professor Tim Seastedt in weed control research. Professor Seastedt's exciting and path-breaking research on using insects and soil chemistry to control the spread of noxious, non-native plants holds promise in addressing a vexing—and spreading—problem, especially on our western lands.

Professor Seastedt's work was recently recognized through a \$280,000 grant awarded to him by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to continue his work of examining the soil chemistry of diffused knapweed and devising a way to develop soil nutrients that kill or hamper the growth of this problem weed in Colorado and elsewhere. Through this grant and his existing work on the role of insects in controlling the spread of weeds, Professor Seastedt is demonstrating that we can address our weed problems and do so in an effective and environmentally sensitive manner.

The nature and extent of the weed problem in the west is dramatic and serious. In Colorado alone, there are 85 species of weeds that

are taking root in millions of acres of rangeland, have displaced nearly 10 percent of the state's native plant species, have destroyed habitat for bighorn sheep and other wildlife, and caused upwards of \$100 million in lost crop productivity annually. Similar impacts exist in many other states.

Weeds get here and take hold for a host of different reasons. In the case of diffused knapweed, it is theorized that this plant came over from Europe from imported alfalfa crops. But no matter how they get here, once these plants take hold they are very hard to eradicate. In North Dakota, for example, where another plant—leafy spurge—is a particularly bad problem, the state has been spending nearly \$100 million a year to control it. Such controls involve everything from herbicides, mowing, hand-pulling, and the use of grazing animals such as sheep—all to little or no effect. The plants keep coming back. In addition, some of these methods, such as the spraying of chemical herbicides, are controversial as they may be harmful to the environment.

That's where Professor Seastedt's work comes in. Given the cost, low-effectiveness and environmental concerns of these traditional methods, Professor Seastedt and his researchers began looking for better methods. He latched on to insects. For example, in the case of diffused knapweed, Professor Seastedt found that a number of species of weevil feed upon the roots, stems, seeds and flowers of this plant. So, he released a swarm of them in test plots along Colorado's Front Range, an area especially hard hit by this weed. The result: where there once were 30 stems of diffused knapweed per square meter, there now are hardly any at all. And native grasses and plants, which are not palatable to the weevils, are now making a strong return.

This story is being copied in North Dakota with the leafy spurge. There is a species of insect called flea beetles that seems to thrive on this weed with the result of reducing by half the acreage that has been affected there. This insect is now being used to control the leafy spurge problem at Colorado's Cherry Creek State Park, which has resulted in a 60 percent reduction of the growth of this weed at this popular state park.

Insects are thus proving to be an exciting tool in our arsenal against weeds. The other weapon is the new research on soil chemistry. Professor Seastedt has been studying the soil conditions that are favorable to diffused knapweed. He has found that some nutrients are more favorable to this plant than others. Armed with this knowledge, it may be possible to use natural elements of the soil to enhance the growth of favorable plants and retard the growth of harmful ones like diffused knapweed. The grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture will help him continue this research.

Professor Seastedt's success in this regard will further help restore the health of our lands, increase agricultural productivity, and enhance the quality of life in the west. I look forward to the continuing work of Professor Seastedt and his researchers on our ongoing struggle to get ahead of and win our war with weeds.

[From Westword, Aug. 9-15, 2001]

WEED WHACKER!

TIM SEASTEDT TAKES NO PRISONERS IN THE WAR AGAINST KNAWEED

(By Harrison Fletcher)

Tim Seastedt is at war.

His enemy is a drifter, voracious and cruel, striking fast and furiously. By 1997, it had already ravaged more than three million acres of rangeland in the West and fought off assaults by ravenous goats, chemical agents and flamethrowers.

Then Seastedt arrived on the scene, squaring off against the scourge on a 157-acre slice of prairie in Boulder County. His chances didn't look good: What could one lanky ecologist from the University of Colorado do to combat the dreaded *Centaura diffusa*? Study it to death?

But now, four years later, on a bright summer day, Seastedt strides through the pasture like an actor in an allergy-relief commercial, wearing a T-shirt bearing the words "Ecology With Attitude." Looking beyond the wildflowers, butterflies and meadow-larks, he spots signs of death and destruction. Weeds with stems stripped bare. Weeds with leaves eaten away. Weeds with seedheads decimated. Weeds starved for nutrients. Weeds pushed back by native grasses. Seastedt bends down on one knee and plucks a spindly forb from the damp soil.

"This guy's not going to make it," he says, examining the taproot, which has been split wide open by a burrowing weevil. "This is more than just good news. This is advanced good news!" Seastedt casts aside the carcass and continues his stroll. Out on the prairie, armed with little more than bugs and fertilizer, he is winning the war against diffuse knapweed.

Colorado officials list 85 weeds they'd just as soon see wiped off the face of the earth—plants that have overrun millions of acres of rangeland, displaced 10 percent of the state's native plants, destroyed habitat for bighorn sheep, elk and sage grouse, and caused \$100 million in lost crop productivity annually. Diffuse knapweed ranks in the top five on this roster, behind only Canada thistle, field bindweed, Russian knapweed and leafy spurge. At last count, 83,000 acres along the Front Range alone were infested with diffuse knapweed, most of them in Boulder and Douglas counties.

Under the 1991 Undesirable Plant Management Act, every county is required to develop a plan to identify and handle noxious weeds. And so county officials wrote rules, formed weed-management boards, coordinated strategies and set about to educate the public. But they've had trouble enforcing the rules, coordinating the strategies and educating the public. So the act was amended in 1996 and the position of state weed manager created.

Today, however, Eric Lane, Colorado's weed manager, grudgingly draws this conclusion: "Uninfested areas are still becoming infested. In that respect, with this one species, we are slowly losing the battle."

Enter Tim Seastedt

A 52-year-old Nebraska native with a suntanned face, bristle-brush mustache and vocabulary loaded with phrases like "biomass" and "stem density," Seastedt started his scientific career as a zoologist in Montana, tagging grizzly bears. But he longed to "solve big-picture questions" about "whole-level landscapes," and after spending two years as a Peace Corps worker in Tonga, "waiting for Nixon to solve Vietnam," he returned to the U.S. and became an ecologist.

He studied in Alaska and Georgia and Kansas, where he specialized in grasslands, "trying to understand why dominant species are dominant." He arrived in Colorado in 1990 and became a professor of environmental population and organic biology at the University of Colorado. In 1996, at the height of the battle over herbicides in Boulder County, Citizens for Alternatives to Toxins in Boulder tried to enlist Seastedt's help. He turned them down, but when they asked again a year later, Seastedt offered to review the scientific reports for Boulder County's weed plan.

"But there were no reports," Seastedt recalls. "There was no science justifying their management program. As an ecologist, I was used to doing science-based, ecosystem land management. The first ground rule is you obtain data. I thought, 'If they're doing these things without data, there might be a problem.'"

Although Seastedt wasn't officially affiliated with the anti-toxics group, he sympathized with them. When fighting weeds, employing herbicides is like using an anvil to hammer a nail. "My advocacy has always been the least toxic approach," he says. "In my mind, using that stuff as a routine tool was just unacceptable."

So he started doing some investigating of his own. And he realized that while the chemicals were killing a lot of weeds, "the weeds are just going to come back. We need something more sustainable."

His first thought was bugs.

In Colorado, insects have been used to fight diffuse knapweed for more than a decade, with decidedly mixed results. But when Seastedt visited places such as Walker Ranch, where bugs have been deployed on and off for years, he found that at least one species, a weevil, had enjoyed some successes before being hindered by herbicide spraying, weed pulling or mowing. So despite the popular consensus that bugs had failed, Seastedt was encouraged. "I saw evidence that biocontrols could work, given enough time," he says.

After getting the green light from Boulder County to conduct this experiment on 157 acres near Superior, he visited state agricultural offices and loaded upon on free bugs. But instead of releasing one or two species, which had been the approach in the past, Seastedt decided to use five bugs to attack different parts of the weed simultaneously. If one bug died or moved along, another would take over.

So in the summer of 1997, Seastedt released fifty root-boring weevils named *Cyphocleonus*, which feed upon infant knapweeds and lay eggs on their roots. Then he released 300 beetles named *Sphenoptera jugoslavica*, which attack the roots, stunt growth, reduce flower production and kill rosettes. Next, he released 200 *Larinus minutus* seedhead weevils, which lay eggs on flowers, eat blossoms and gobble up seeds. Two species, seedhead gall flies called *Urophora affinis* and *U. quadrifasciata*, had already been released; they lay eggs on flowers and sap the weed's energy.

Then he waited.

For two years, nothing seemed to happen. In fact, he remembers, the weeds got bigger and covered more ground. But in the summer of 1999, Seastedt noticed a bug boom, an exponential growth of insects "straight out of an ecology textbook." Then weeds became stunted. Then weeds stopped producing as many seeds. Then they stopped spreading as rapidly.

When he studied the results this summer, even Seastedt was surprised: Rosettes have

dropped from 50 per square meter in 1997 to three; seed production has been slashed from 5,000 per square meter to blow 100; and weeds have fallen from twenty per square meter to less than five. And weeds that appear healthy are little more than insect reservoirs, serving as both a home and a food source. By next summer, he says, those weeds will be producing new bugs instead of new knapweeds. And if that happens, the insect population could soar beyond twenty million—enough to supply knapweed-eating bugs to the entire Front Range.

"Look at this," Seastedt says, yanking a droopy weed from the pasture. "What we're getting are these wimpy little plants. Roots have been hit. Seedheads are empty. They've been defoliated. *Larinum* has done its damage. The gull flies have been doing their thing. There's just nothing here to support the final product. Next year, I'm not sure there will be knapweeds here." With the knapweed in full retreat, native plants will be free to take their place. Some already have.

"When we started, you could hardly find June grass here," Seastedt says. "And when you did, it was just these tiny clumps. Now it's all over. The recovery has just been spectacular. Next year, I predict 90 percent restored prairie. And the 10 percent of knapweed that is here will be grazed to the ground."

Even if the bugs are successful, Seastedt believes that the ultimate way to beat diffuse knapweed is to understand why it has flourished in Colorado—and then reverse the process. His team is trying to do just that on the land outside Superior. Here is Seastedt's theory. Diffuse knapweed has been able to thrive in Colorado because, among other things, changes in the soil over the past 150 years gave the weed a competitive edge. First, the rangeland has been grazed continuously, and plants that might have offered competition have been repeatedly nibbled away. Second, fires have been limited, and fires cleanse the soil of nutrients that weeds love, including nitrogen. In fact, scientists have discovered that one of the fastest ways to turn healthy grasslands into weed fields is to add nitrogen. And nitrogen, as it turns out, is the third factor: Nitrogen levels have been rising steadily in the soil, in part because of increases in atmospheric deposits.

Seastedt wonders: Can scientists reverse the process? Can they tinker with soil chemistry and restore rangeland to its pre-knapweed condition? And if they succeed, will it blunt the weed's competitive edge? Will it bring back healthy native plants and grasses?

To find out, Seastedt and researchers Katie Suding and Kate LeJeune cordoned off certain plots and added nitrogen. The plants—particularly pepper grass, which grew in thick bunches loved it. But diffuse knapweed stayed more or less unchanged.

Interesting, the researchers thought. Perhaps nitrogen wasn't so vital to knapweed after all. Perhaps another nutrient determined whether the weed would live or die. In other parts of the world, like the tropics, phosphorus is a key nutrient; perhaps knapweed needed phosphorus. So they added phosphorus, and while other plants stayed more or less unchanged, diffuse knapweed bulked up like a linebacker on steroids.

Interesting, the researchers thought. Diffuse knapweed liked phosphorus; perhaps phosphorus would prove knapweed's Achilles heel.

So they tinkered some more, adding phosphorus and nitrogen, removing phosphorus

and nitrogen, pulling knapweed from some plots and leaving knapweed in others. Although it's too early to tell what the results of this summer's experiments will be, they think they're on the right track. In May, they were awarded a \$280,000 federal grant. Now if they can find the right mix of phosphorus, nitrogen or some other nutrient, they might be able to tip the balance away from knapweed and toward native plants and grasses.

"Once native grasses are happy and healthy again, we think they are capable of greatly reducing knapweed," Seastedt says.

No matter how successful his experiments, Seastedt doesn't believe diffuse knapweed will ever be completely eradicated. In fact, he doesn't think weed managers should even try. At best, they can only hope to reduce the weed to a level that allows native plants and grasses to return. "What I'd like to see is a prairie dominated by the vegetation we want to be there: native plants given the maximum potential to express diversity," Seastedt says. "If that means 1 or 2 percent cover by diffuse knapweed, that wouldn't bother me at all. It would be just like the dandelion. And if we can get knapweed to be like a dandelion, then we've done our job."

PATRIOT ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2001

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I am happy that last Friday this body voted and passed an Anti-terrorism bill.

However, instead of bringing to the floor the legislation reported out of committee. Legislation that was crafted in a bi-partisan manner and voted on unanimously. Instead of bringing that language to the floor for a vote, we were forced to debate and vote on bill that was taken off the printer that morning!

The process by which this body is supposed to conduct its business was disrupted and I along with some of my colleagues were misinformed about the exact content of the bill that was brought to the floor at 8:00 that morning.

I inadvertently reported that the provision increasing the funding for the fallen public safety officers was not included. This provision was indeed included in the legislation that passed the House.

I am happy that the families of the men and women who lost their lives in the attempt to save others have our support during a time when they need the most help.

However, I have a great concern about the manner in which this body conducted business on Friday.

Preparing for one bill only to be have legislation brought to the floor for debate before anyone can carefully read and analyze its provisions, is irresponsible and dangerous.

I hope that in the future this body will return to conducting its business in a responsible and respectful manner.

HIGH-DEPLOYMENT PER DIEM/ OVERTIME

HON. CYNTHIA A. MCKINNEY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 17, 2001

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, it was expected that later this week we would be taking up an economic stimulus bill. I've heard about all sorts of benefits being included, from loan guarantees and tax cuts, to increasing health insurance and unemployment assistance. However, one un-stimulating provision was imposed by President Bush last week.

As Congress deemed fit last year, each branch of the military was to count the days each service member was deployed, and to pay them a high deployment per diem of \$100 per day for each day over 400 days in two years that they are deployed. On October 8, the Pentagon suspended this pay.

As we send our sons and daughters overseas to participate in our war in Afghanistan, why should we cut away their high deployment pay? More than any other period in their service, we are asking more of them—to be in harms way, to be away from their families, to be in the greatest service to our nation. This is when they are truly earning overtime.

Mr. Chairman, our service men and women need to know that we support them and that their service is important to our nation, and we need to support their morale. While we pass tax cuts for corporations and increase benefits for the unemployed, we must assist and applaud our service personnel as well. We must pay our service men and women the overtime they are owed. I don't think anyone disputes that they have earned it.

SIXTH DISTRICT IS HOME TO NEW NAHU PRESIDENT

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 17, 2001

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, the Sixth District of North Carolina is proud to report today that one of its own has been elected as the new leader of a national industry association. I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues the inauguration of the new president of the National Association of Health Underwriters, Bynum Tuttle, a friend and constituent of mine from Denton, North Carolina.

I was delighted to learn of Bynum's new position not only because it is the capstone of a remarkable career in service to his clients, but also because he is one of the friendliest people I know.

A graduate of North Carolina State University, Bynum began his health insurance career in 1978 with Pilot Life Insurance Company in Greensboro with a large territory including portions of northwest North Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia. A true entrepreneur at heart, he soon decided to open his own brokerage firm in Greensboro.

Bynum's dynamic leadership with the North Carolina Association of Health Underwriters